MARVEL COMICS
GUEST-STARRING SANDMAN™ AND QUICKSAND™!
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN
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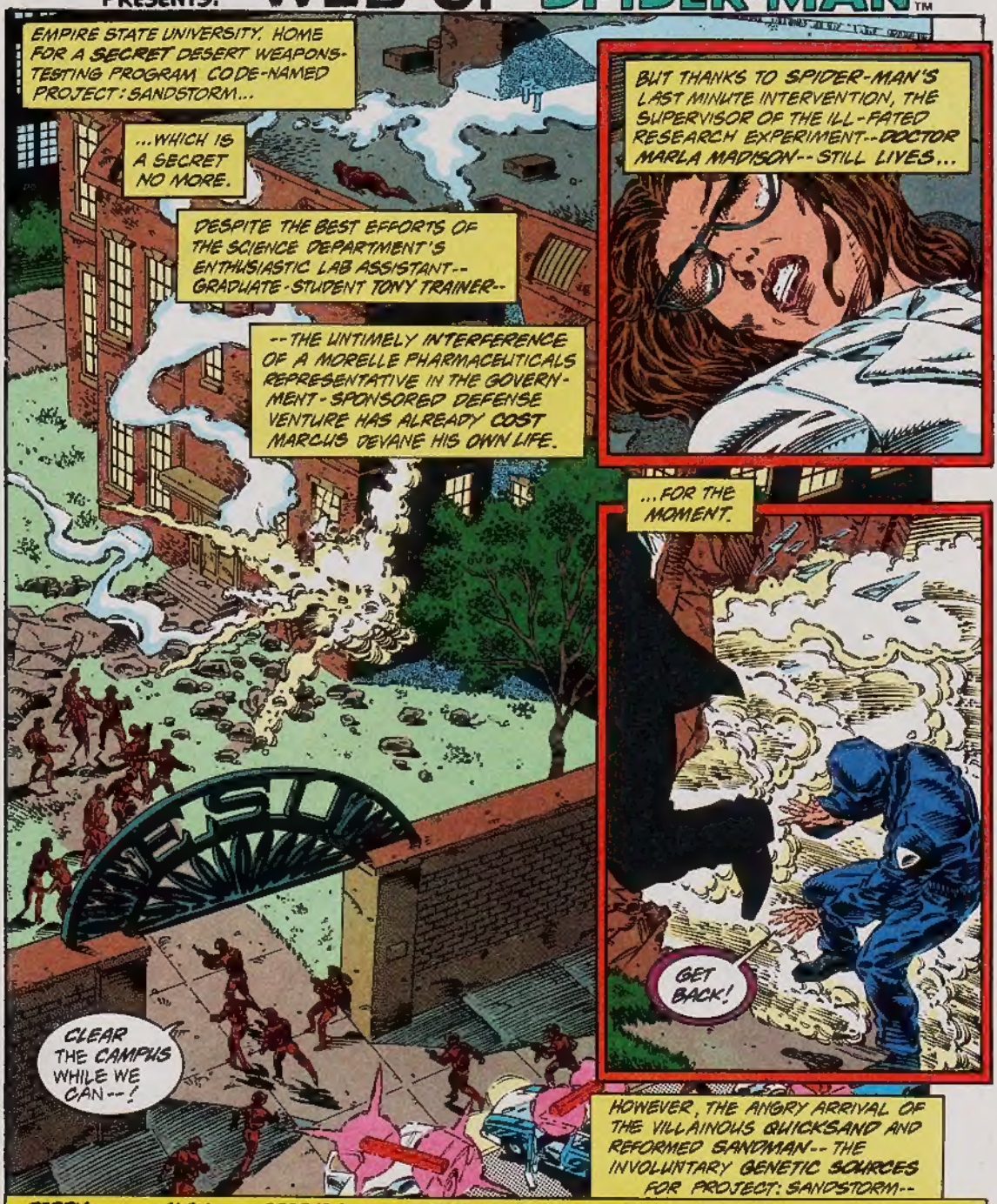
JAN
UK 95p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SPIDEY™ VERSUS SANDSTORM™ --
-- THE BATTLE RAGES ON!
DIRECT EDITION

BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT PETER PARKER GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: WEB OF SPIDER-MAN™


EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY. HOME FOR A SECRET DESERT WEAPONS-TESTING PROGRAM CODE-NAMED PROJECT: SANDSTORM...
...WHICH IS A SECRET NO MORE.
DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS OF THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT'S ENTHUSIASTIC LAB ASSISTANT--GRADUATE-STUDENT TONY TRAINER--
--THE UNTIMELY INTERFERENCE OF A MORELLE PHARMACEUTICALS REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED DEFENSE VENTURE HAS ALREADY COST MARCUS DEVANE HIS OWN LIFE.
CLEAR THE CAMPUS WHILE WE CAN--!
BUT THANKS TO SPIDER-MAN'S LAST MINUTE INTERVENTION, THE SUPERVISOR OF THE ILL-FATED RESEARCH EXPERIMENT--DOCTOR MARLA MADISON--STILL LIVES...
...FOR THE MOMENT.
GET BACK!
HOWEVER, THE ANGRY ARRIVAL OF THE VILLAINOUS QUICKSAND AND REFORMED SANDMAN--THE INVOLUNTARY GENETIC SOURCES FOR PROJECT: SANDSTORM--

TERRY KAVANAGH	ALEX SAVIUK	STEPHEN BASKERVILLE	STEVE DUTRO	BOB SHAREN	ERIC FEIN	DANNY FINGEROTH	TOM DEFALCO
WRITER	PENCILER	INKER	LETTERER	COLORIST	EDITOR	GROUP EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF

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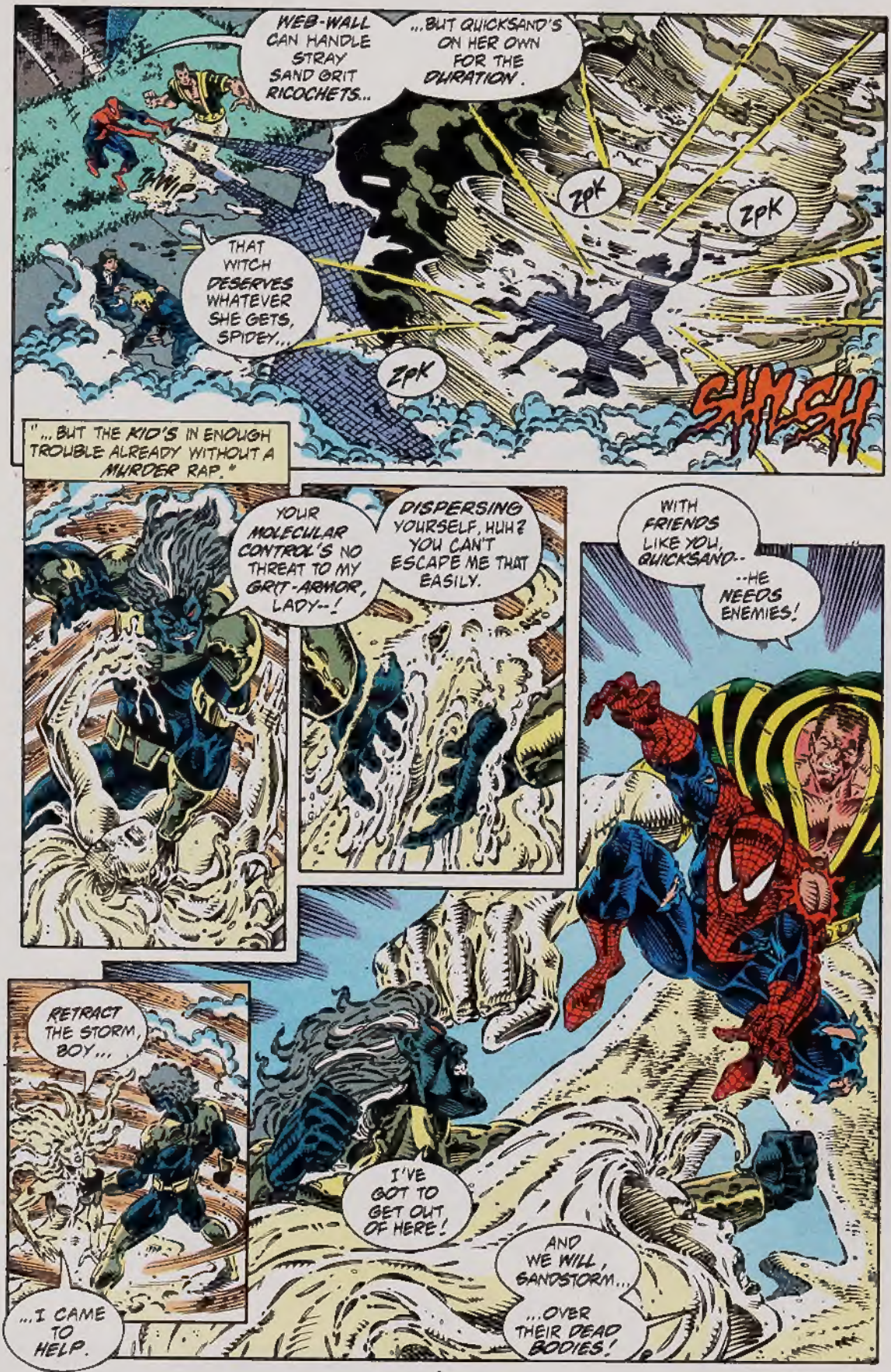
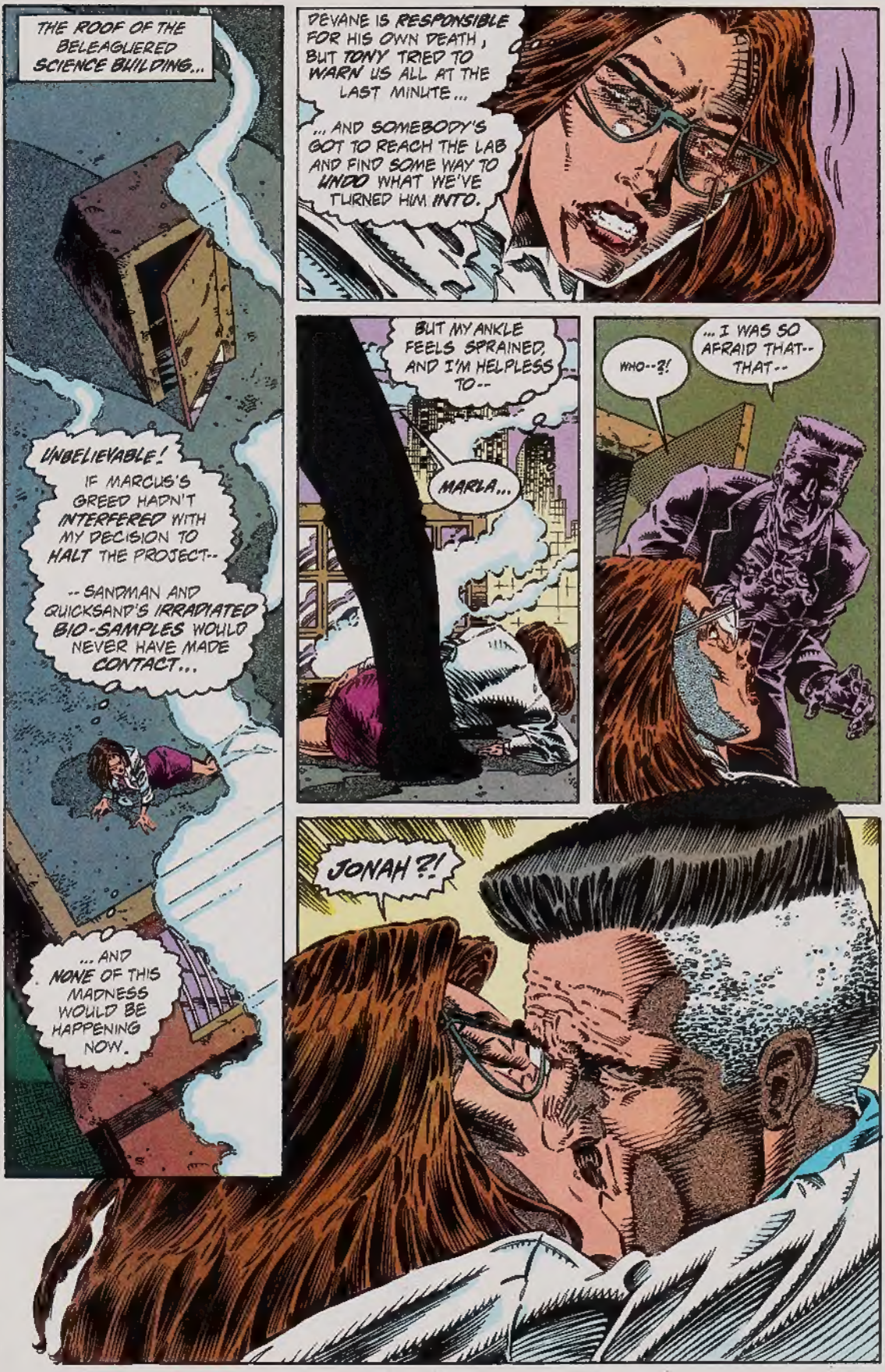
--WAS MERELY AN OMINOUS PRELUDE TO THE BIRTH OF SANDSTORM HIMSELF*!
SHLSH
NOOO!
THE EYE OF THE STORM
* LAST ISSUE. --ERIC

HELP ME... SANDMAN...
SOMETHING ABOUT THIS GRIT-STORM -- MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR ME TO RE-FORM.
I'M HAVING TROUBLE,TOO.
NEVER MEANT TO KILL MARCUS WHEN MY MUTATING BODY WAS GRINDING THROUGH THE LAB -- I WAS STILL TRYING TO "FIND MYSELF" IN THE HEART OF IT ALL--
--BUT I WON'T BE CAPTURED UNTIL I KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME... AND WHEN IT WILL STOP!
HE'S GOT TO BE THAT TRAINER KID THAT DR. MADISON'S SO WORRIED ABOUT...
...AND HE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT DEVANE WAS ALREADY DEAD FROM THE EXPLOSION LONG BEFORE SANDSTORM REACHED HIM.
ONLY CHANCE IS TO KEEP FIRING RANDOM WEB-LINES...
SLASH
...HOPING TO CONNECT WITH SOMETHING STABLE OUTSIDE THIS MAELSTROM.
THWAPT
SHLSH
HAVE TO DO THIS INCH BY INCH...
SHLSH
...AND I CAN ONLY DRAG ALONG ONE OF THESE TWO--

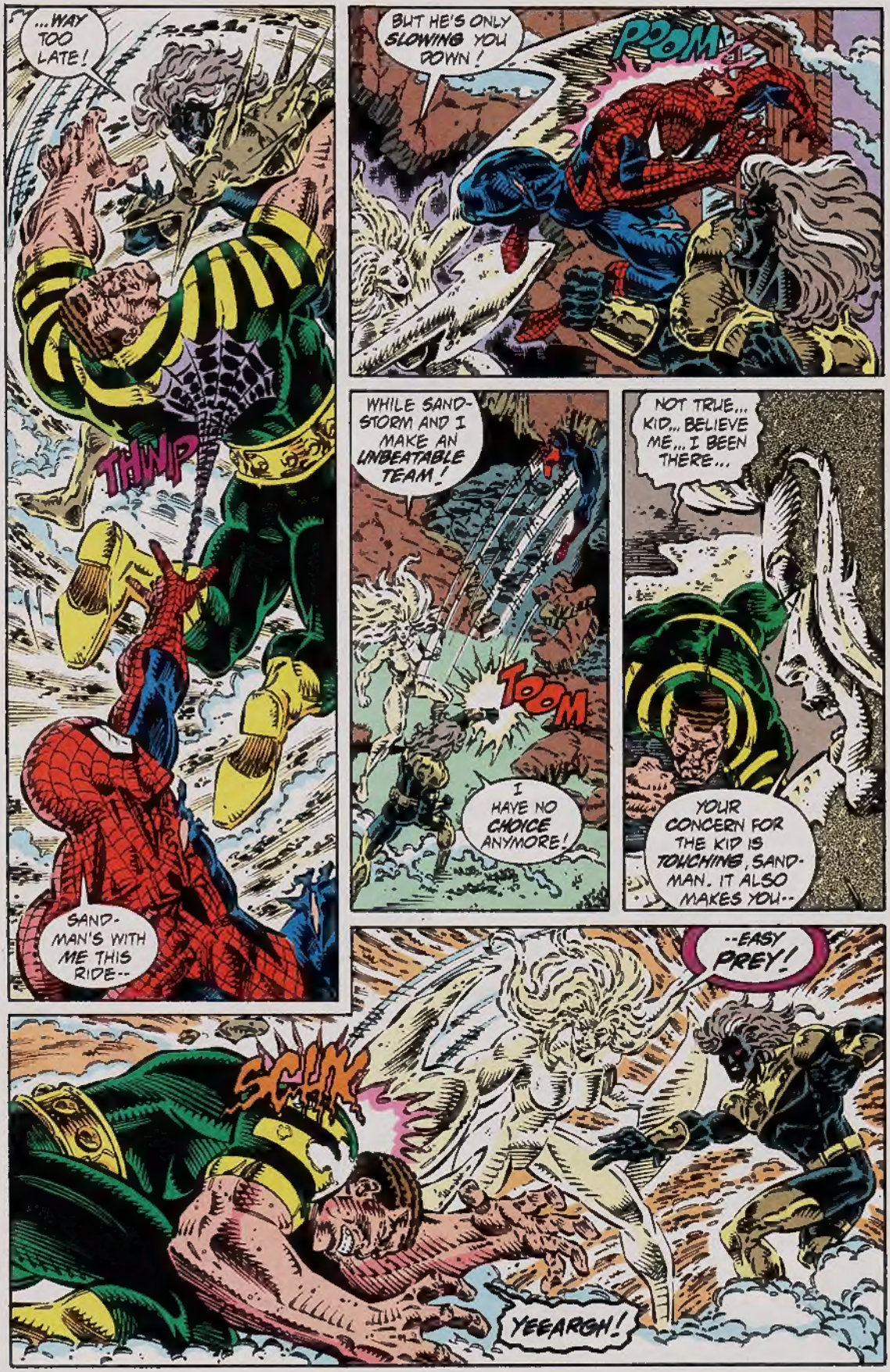
--OR WE'RE ALL GROUND CHUCK!
WHADDAYA THINK YER DOIN', SPIDER-MAN?
SHLSH
SHLSH
GIVING YOU A CHANCE TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER AGAIN--
--IT'S OBVIOUS THAT ALONG WITH HIS GRIT STORM THIS GUY GIVES OFF SOME KIND OF EFFECT THAT KEEPS YOU FROM RE-CONFIGURING YOURSELF.
IT DOESN'T MATTER. I GOTTA GET BACK IN THERE AND CALM HIM DOWN.
...HELP HIM...
I SEE WORKING WITH SILVER SABLE HAS BEEN GOOD FOR YOU. BUT MY FIRST CONCERN IS E.S.U. ...
"...AND THE INNOCENT VICTIMS OF SANDSTORM."
LIKK
ZPK
LOOK OUT!
ZPK

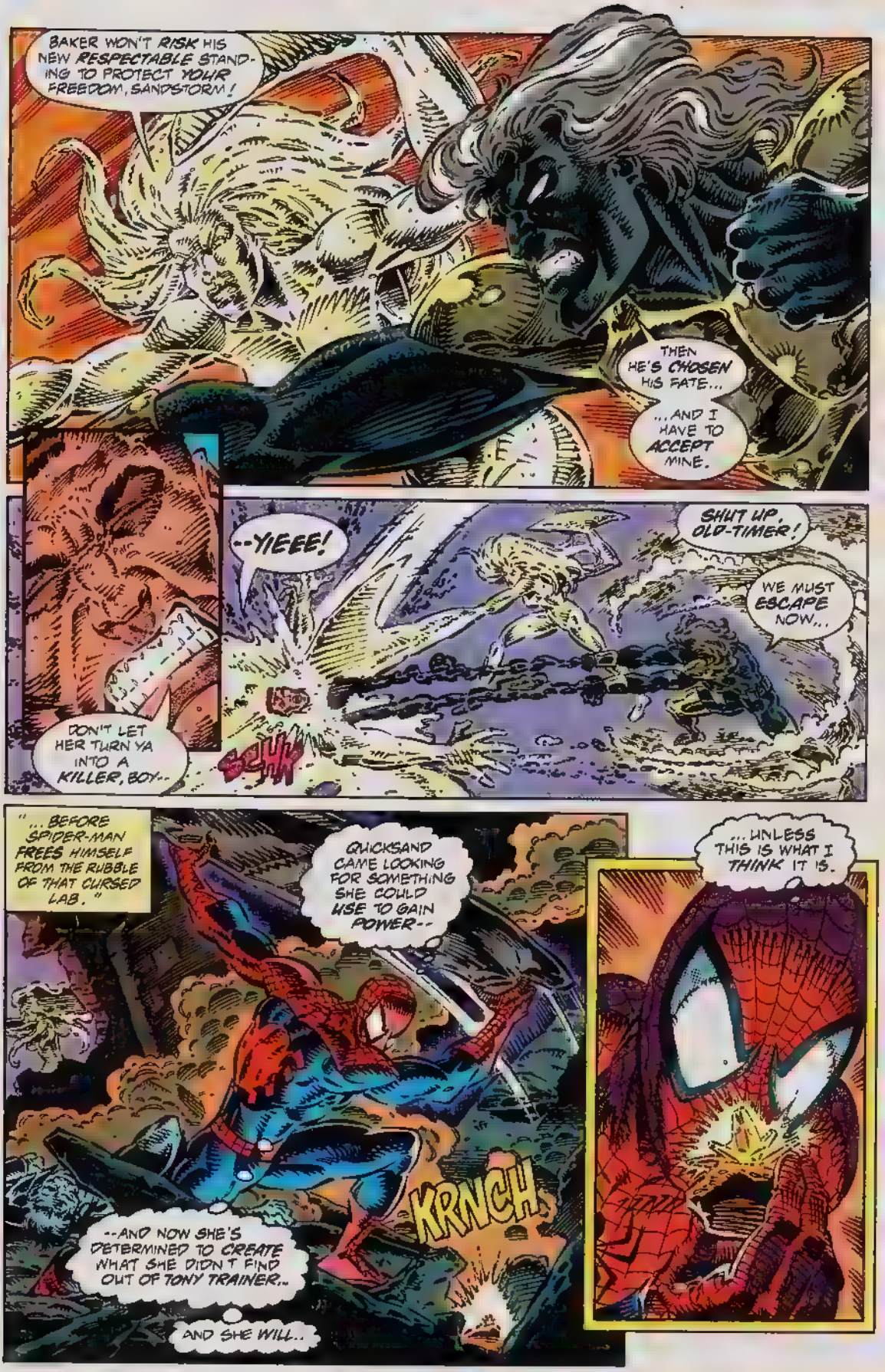

WEB-WALL CAN HANDLE STRAY SAND GRIT RICOCHETS...
...BUT QUICKSAND'S ON HER OWN FOR THE DURATION.
THWIP
ZPK
ZPK
ZPK
THAT WITCH DESERVES WHATEVER SHE GETS, SPIDEY...
SHLSH
"...BUT THE KID'S IN ENOUGH TROUBLE ALREADY WITHOUT A MURDER RAP."
YOUR MOLECULAR CONTROL'S NO THREAT TO MY GRIT-ARMOR, LADY--!
DISPERSING YOURSELF, HUH? YOU CAN'T ESCAPE ME THAT EASILY.
WITH FRIENDS LIKE YOU, QUICKSAND--
--HE NEEDS ENEMIES!
RETRACT THE STORM, BOY...
...I CAME TO HELP.
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!
AND WE WILL, SANDSTORM...
...OVER THEIR DEAD BODIES!

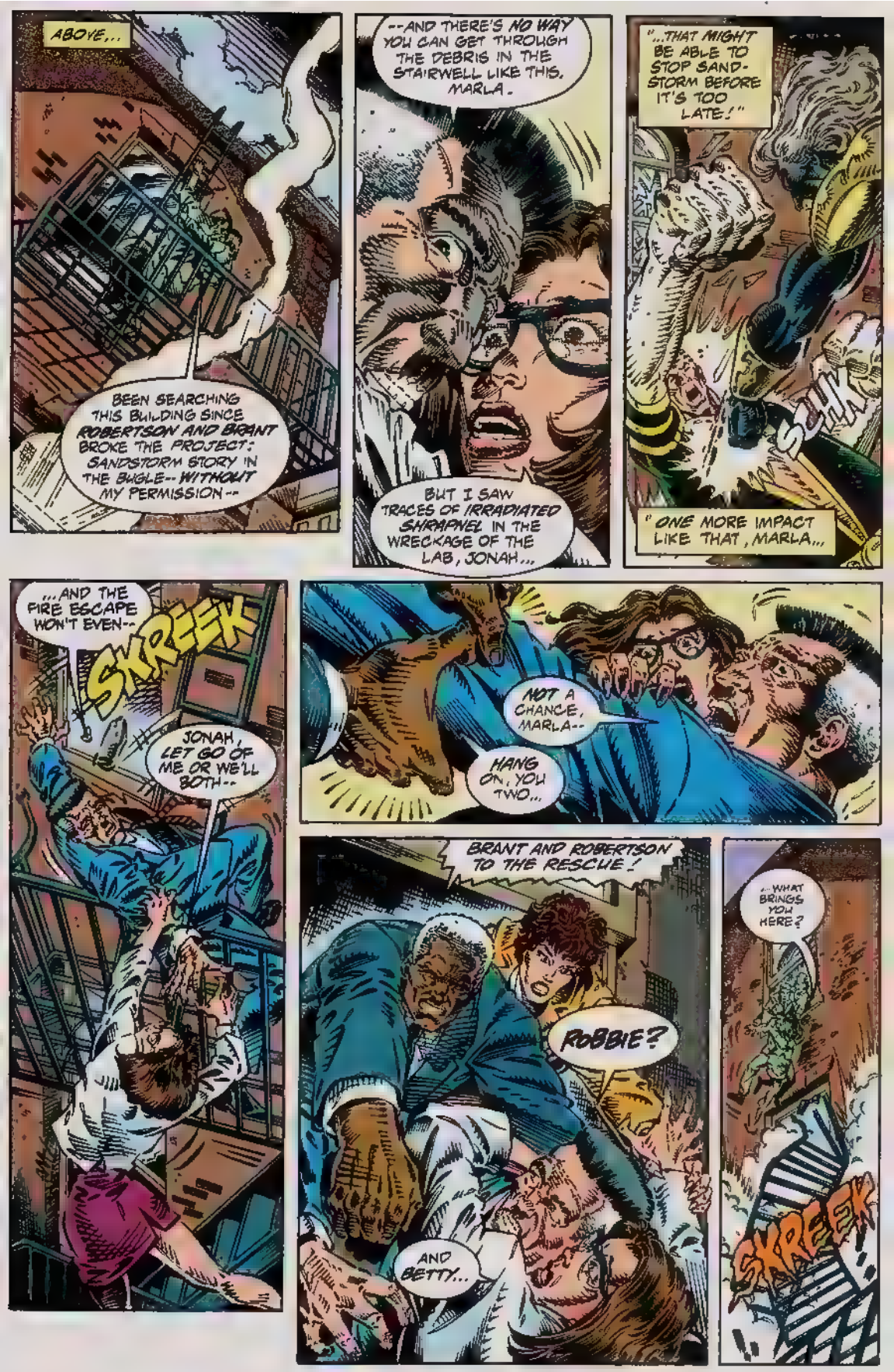

THE ROOF OF THE BELEAGUERED SCIENCE BUILDING...
DEVANE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OWN DEATH, BUT TONY TRIED TO WARN US ALL AT THE LAST MINUTE...
...AND SOMEBODY'S GOT TO REACH THE LAB AND FIND SOME WAY TO UNDO WHAT WE'VE TURNED HIM INTO.
UNBELIEVABLE! IF MARCUS'S GREED HADN'T INTERFERED WITH MY DECISION TO HALT THE PROJECT--
--SANDMAN AND QUICKSAND'S IRRADIATED BIO-SAMPLES WOULD NEVER HAVE MADE CONTACT...
...AND NONE OF THIS MADNESS WOULD BE HAPPENING NOW.
BUT MY ANKLE FEELS SPRAINED, AND I'M HELPLESS TO--
MARLA...
WHO--?!
...I WAS SO AFRAID THAT-- THAT--
JONAH?!

STAY AWAY FROM HIM, LADY!
EVERYBODY BACK TO THEIR CORNERS UNTIL THE POLICE--
WE WON'T BE STOPPED THAT EASILY, SPIDER-MAN!
WOK
SPFF
THEY CAN'T HURT US, SAND-STORM...
...BUT WE CAN TAKE THEM APART--
--TOGETHER!
WHOA! THAT WAS TOO CLOSE--
--SPIDER-SENSE WARNED ME JUST IN TIME!
CHFF

IF YOU FORCE ME TO SHED MY OUTER LAYER OF ARMOR AGAIN, SPIDER-MAN...
...THE MAELSTROM OF SHRAPNEL WILL SLICE YOU TO RIBBONS!
QUICK-SAND'S JUST USIN' YA, KID...
...BUT I'M DETERMINED TA KEEP YA FROM DOIN' SOMETHIN' WE'LL BOTH REGRET--
--BKK--
SHK
SHK
TOO LITTLE, SAND-MAN...


...WAY TOO LATE!
THWIP
SAND-MAN'S WITH ME THIS RIDE--
BUT HE'S ONLY SLOWING YOU DOWN!
POOM
WHILE SAND-STORM AND I MAKE AN UNBEATABLE TEAM!
TOOM
I HAVE NO CHOICE ANYMORE!
NOT TRUE... KID... BELIEVE ME... I BEEN THERE...
YOUR CONCERN FOR THE KID IS TOUCHING, SAND-MAN. IT ALSO MAKES YOU--
--EASY PREY!
SCUK
YEEARGH!

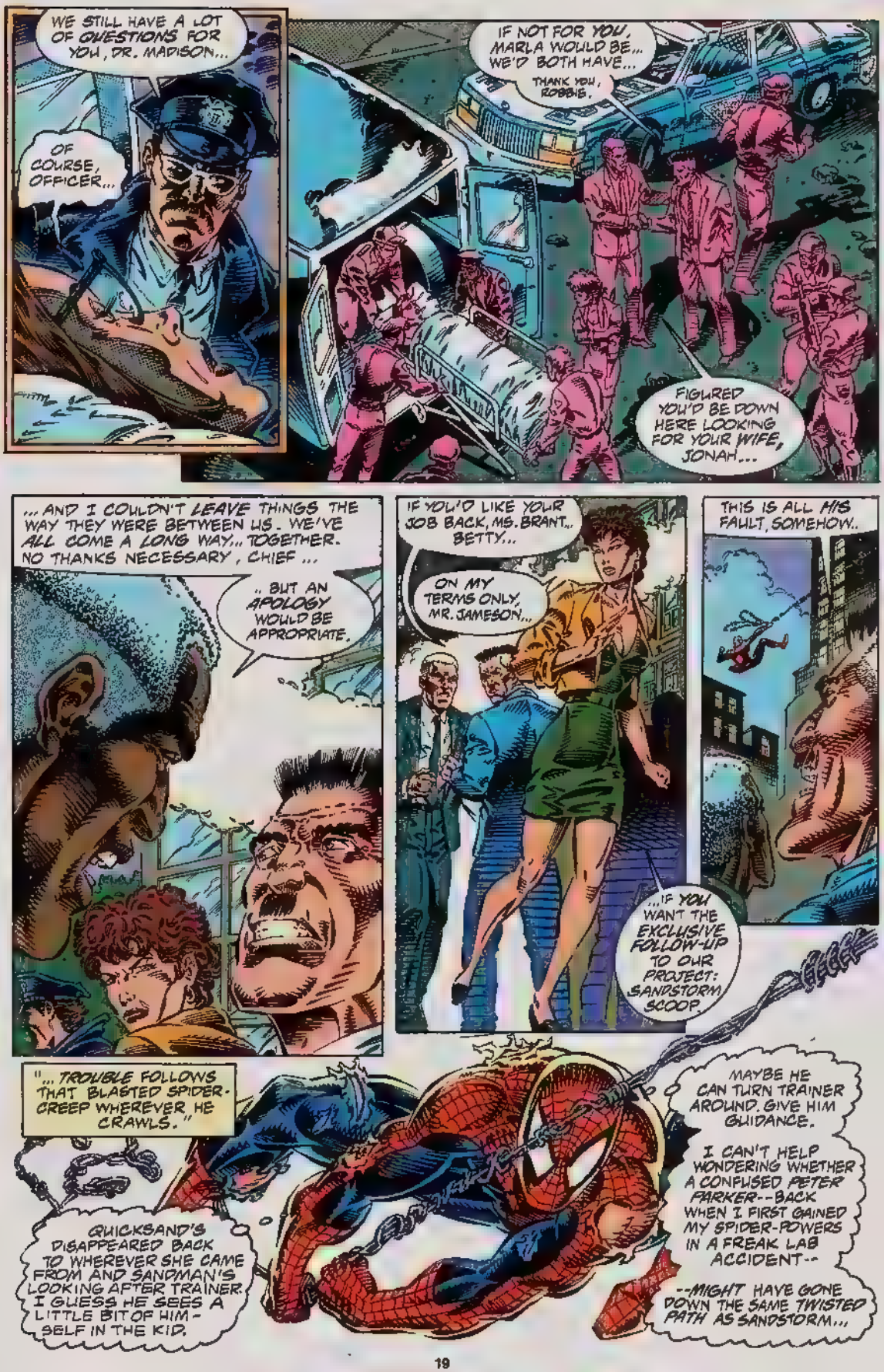

BAKER WON'T RISK HIS NEW RESPECTABLE STANDING TO PROTECT YOUR FREEDOM, SANDSTORM!
THEN HE'S CHOSEN HIS FATE...
...AND I HAVE TO ACCEPT MINE.
--YIEEE!
SHUT UP, OLD-TIMER!
WE MUST ESCAPE NOW...
DON'T LET HER TURN YA INTO A KILLER, BOY--
"...BEFORE SPIDER-MAN FREES HIMSELF FROM THE RUBBLE OF THAT CURSED LAB."
QUICKSAND CAME LOOKING FOR SOMETHING SHE COULD USE TO GAIN POWER--
KRNCH
--AND NOW SHE'S DETERMINED TO CREATE WHAT SHE DIDN'T FIND OUT OF TONY TRAINER..
AND SHE WILL..
...UNLESS THIS IS WHAT I THINK IT IS.

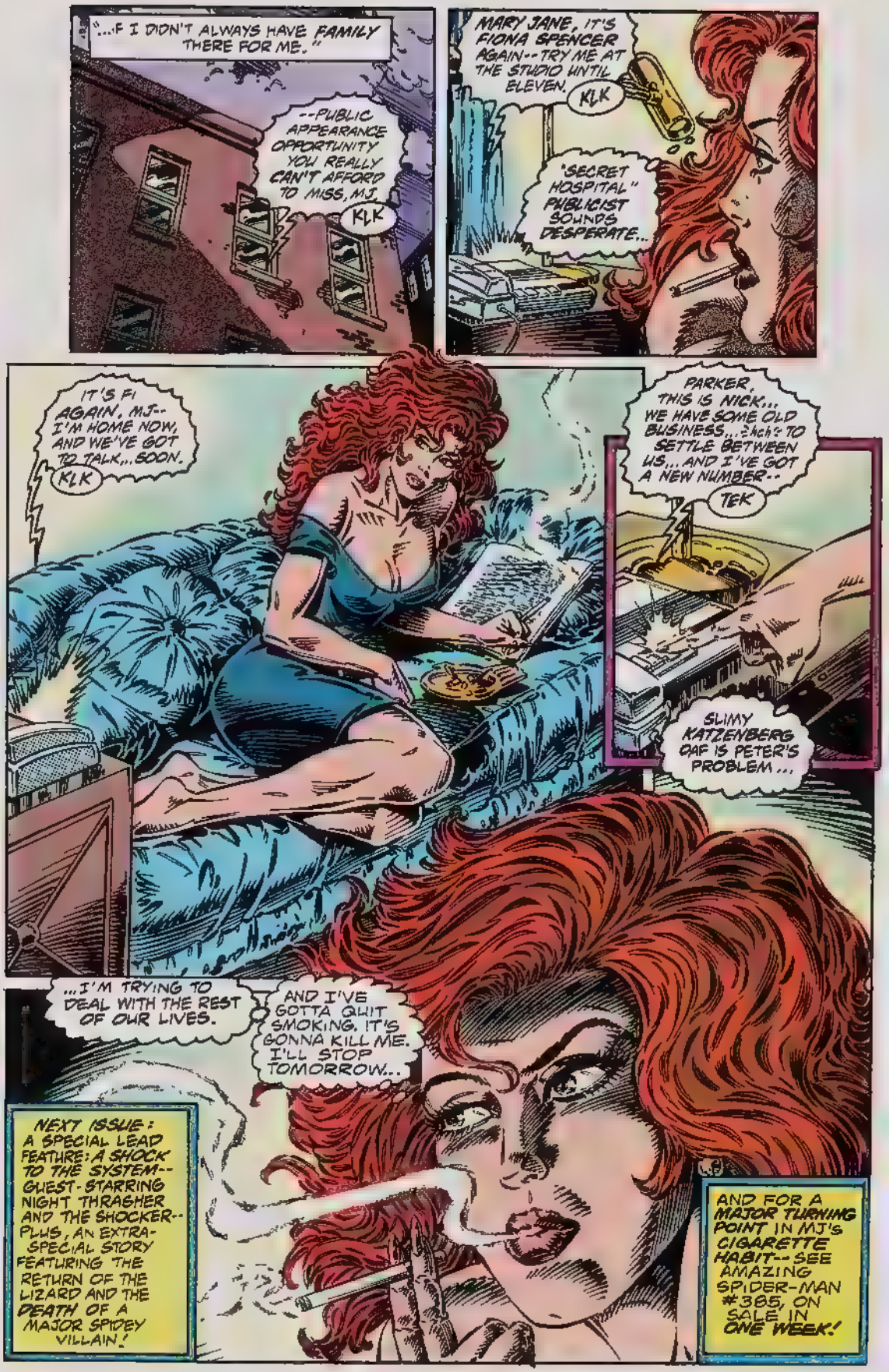

ABOVE...
BEEN SEARCHING THIS BUILDING SINCE ROBERTSON AND BRANT BROKE THE PROJECT: SANDSTORM STORY IN THE BUGLE-- WITHOUT MY PERMISSION --
--AND THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN GET THROUGH THE DEBRIS IN THE STAIRWELL LIKE THIS, MARLA.
BUT I SAW TRACES OF IRRADIATED SHRAPNEL IN THE WRECKAGE OF THE LAB, JONAH...
"...THAT MIGHT BE ABLE TO STOP SAND-STORM BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!"
SUK
"ONE MORE IMPACT LIKE THAT, MARLA...
...AND THE FIRE ESCAPE WON'T EVEN--
SKREEK
JONAH, LET GO OF ME OR WE'LL BOTH--
NOT A CHANCE, MARLA--
HANG ON, YOU TWO...
BRANT AND ROBERTSON TO THE RESCUE!
ROBBIE?
AND BETTY...
...WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
SKREEK

BELOW,
THERE'S LITTLE LEFT OF SANDMAN TO--
DON'T WORRY HE'S GOT TRUE GRIT. I'LL JUST KEEP YOU BUSY WHILE HE REFORMS HIMSELF
THOK
THOK
CAN'T JUST DESERT YA, SANDSTORM..
SPIDER-MA--MPHH!
...LIKE MY FATHER DID TO MEEEE
SHOULDN'T SPEAK WITH YOUR MOUTH FULL OF--
--MY FOOT?
MY FISTS DO MY TALKING, PEST!

NOW THAT SPIDER-MAN'S LOST THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE--
SKROOM
IT'S MY TURN!
SANDMAN... AS A!--
--!!EEE!
SHLSH
THWIP
SPIDEY BOUGHT ME ENOUGH TIME TA REGROUP UNDERGROUND, MUD-CAKES...
FWASH
...BUT THE WATER-MAIN WAS JUST A LUCKY BREAK!
HE'S REALLY OVER THE EDGE. GOTTA TIME THIS JUST RIGHT...
I'LL TEAR YOU ALL APART!
SHLSH

CHT
HUH--?
NOOOO!
YIIIIEEEEEEEEEEAGH!
WHAT DID YA DO TA HIM--?
TOOK A GAMBLE THAT REVERSE-POLARIZING THE SHRAPNEL'S INHERENT CHARGE BACK IN THE LAB WOULD AFFECT THE PARTICLES IN HIS SAND ARMOR.
CHAIN REACTION DESTROYED THE MOLECULAR INTEGRITY OF TRAINER'S FUSED-GRIT ARMOR.
K'D GONNA LIVE?
LOOKS LIKE IT, SANDMAN... BUT I'M NO DOCTOR.
WE'VE GOT TO SEARCH FOR QUICKSAND BEFORE--
FORGET IT, SPIDEY...
...I'M STICKIN' WITH TONY TA MAKE SURE HE'S TREATED FAIRLY.

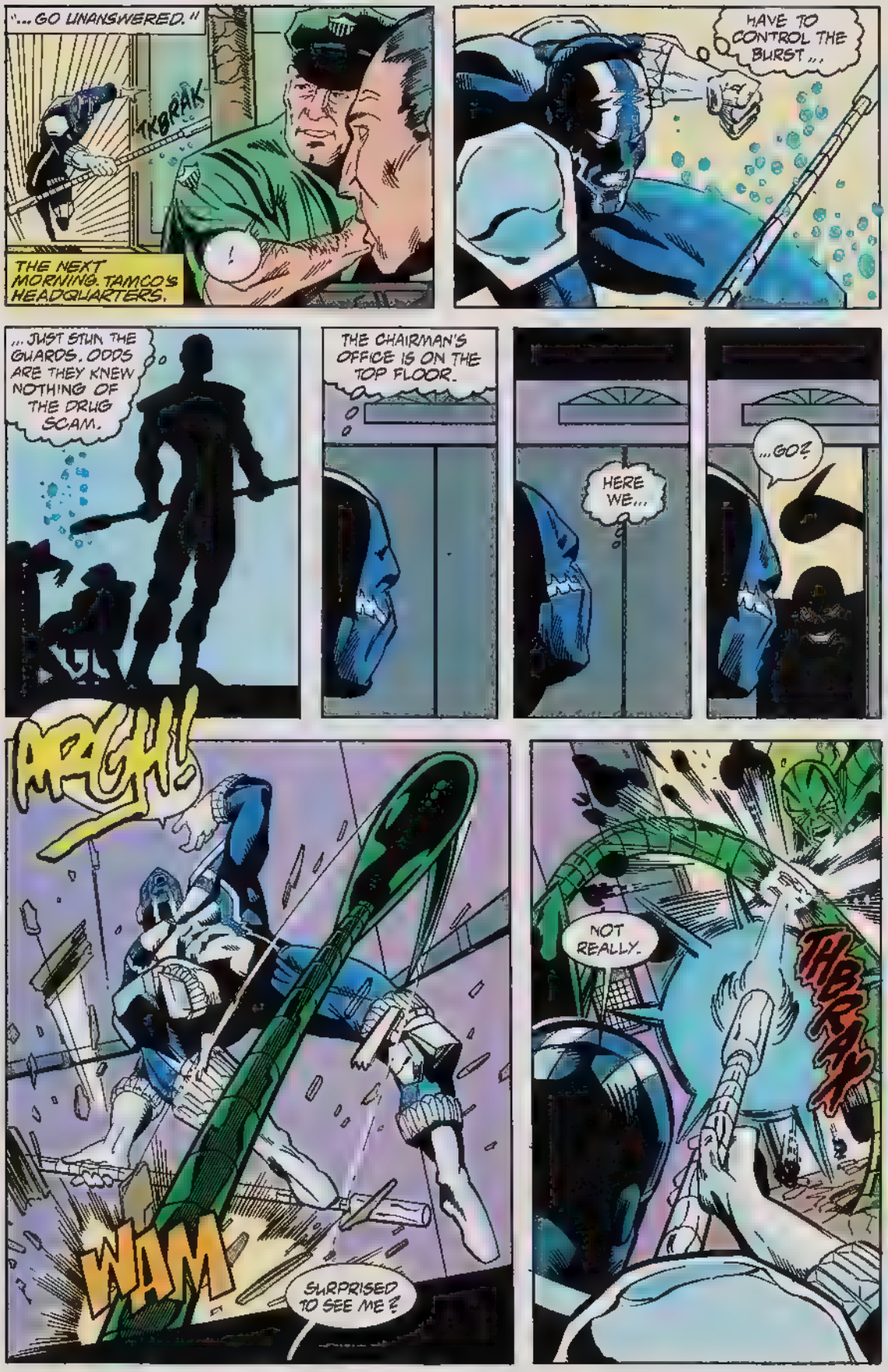

WE STILL HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS FOR YOU, DR. MADISON...
OF COURSE, OFFICER...
IF NOT FOR YOU, MARLA WOULD BE... WE'D BOTH HAVE...
THANK YOU, ROBBIE.
FIGURED YOU'D BE DOWN HERE LOOKING FOR YOUR WIFE, JONAH...
...AND I COULDN'T LEAVE THINGS THE WAY THEY WERE BETWEEN US. WE'VE ALL COME A LONG WAY... TOGETHER. NO THANKS NECESSARY, CHIEF...
.. BUT AN APOLOGY WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.
IF YOU'D LIKE YOUR JOB BACK, MS. BRANT.. BETTY...
ON MY TERMS ONLY, MR. JAMESON..
...IF YOU WANT THE EXCLUSIVE FOLLOW-UP TO OUR PROJECT: SANDSTORM SCOOP.
THIS IS ALL HIS FAULT, SOMEHOW..
"... TROUBLE FOLLOWS THAT BLASTED SPIDER-CREEP WHEREVER HE CRAWLS."
QUICKSAND'S DISAPPEARED BACK TO WHEREVER SHE CAME FROM AND SANDMAN'S LOOKING AFTER TRAINER. I GUESS HE SEES A LITTLE BIT OF HIMSELF IN THE KID.
MAYBE HE CAN TURN TRAINER AROUND. GIVE HIM GUIDANCE.
I CAN'T HELP WONDERING WHETHER A CONFUSED PETER PARKER--BACK WHEN I FIRST GAINED MY SPIDER-POWERS IN A FREAK LAB ACCIDENT--
--MIGHT HAVE GONE DOWN THE SAME TWISTED PATH AS SANDSTORM...


"...F I DIDN'T ALWAYS HAVE FAMILY THERE FOR ME."
--PUBLIC APPEARANCE OPPORTUNITY YOU REALLY CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS, MJ.
KLK
MARY JANE, IT'S FIONA SPENCER AGAIN--TRY ME AT THE STUDIO UNTIL ELEVEN.
KLK
"SECRET HOSPITAL" PUBLICIST SOUNDS DESPERATE...
IT'S F! AGAIN, MJ-- I'M HOME NOW, AND WE'VE GOT TO TALK...SOON.
KLK
PARKER, THIS IS NICK... WE HAVE SOME OLD BUSINESS...?ach? TO SETTLE BETWEEN US...AND I'VE GOT A NEW NUMBER--
TEK
SLIMY KATZENBERG OAF IS PETER'S PROBLEM...
...I'M TRYING TO DEAL WITH THE REST OF OUR LIVES.
AND I'VE GOTTA QUIT SMOKING. IT'S GONNA KILL ME. I'LL STOP TOMORROW...
NEXT ISSUE: A SPECIAL LEAD FEATURE: A SHOCK TO THE SYSTEM-- GUEST-STARRING NIGHT THRASHER AND THE SHOCKER-- PLUS, AN EXTRA-SPECIAL STORY FEATURING THE RETURN OF THE LIZARD AND THE DEATH OF A MAJOR SPIDEY VILLAIN!
AND FOR A MAJOR TURNING POINT IN MJ's CIGARETTE HABIT--SEE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #385, ON SALE IN ONE WEEK!

Stan Lee PRESENTS:
CARDIAC IN TAINTED
PART TWO
A CHILLING WINTER NIGHT ON A NEW YORK PIER.
SEVERELY WOUNDED WHILE TAKING DOWN SIX HEAVILY ARMED MERCS, THE BETA-POWERED CARDIAC IS IN NO SHAPE TO FEND OFF THE FATAL BLOW ABOUT TO BE DELIVERED BY THE MERCS' LEADER...
THE SCORPION!
CARL POTTS WRITER
JESSE D. ORDICO PENCILER
TIMOTHY TUOHY INKER
STEVE DUTRO LETTERER
BOB SHAREN COLORIST
ERIC FEIN EDITOR
DANNY FINGEROTH GROUP EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO SIPPING COCOA
I WAS HIRED TO PROTECT THIS SHIPMENT OF TAINTED ANTI-CANCER DRUGS, CARDIAC.
UNGH
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT OUR PLANS BECAUSE THE DEAD DON'T TELL TALES!
CONCENTRATE... CALL THE... EAGLE.

WOOOSH
IT'S THAT #@!% 'BIRD' OF YOURS!
HA! IT RETRIEVED YOUR BETA STAFF BUT IT'S NOT GONNA TAKE IT TO--
-- YOUUUU!
WUMP
NOW, COME...TO ME.
ARGHH! STRAIN... ON ARM IS.. TORTUOUS!
VROOSH
COME BACK HERE, YOU...
BANK RIGHT.

THERAX
AS YOU... WISH.
KABLAM
WOAH!
HE BLEW THE WHOLE SHIPMENT TO ATOMS!
MY EMPLOYER AIN'T GOING TO LIKE THIS!
HAVE TO GET... BACK TO THE CLINIC. CAN PATCH EVERYTHING UP... THERE.
"IT WAS THERE THAT I FIRST DISCOVERED THE FINANCIALLY TROUBLED TAMCO DRUGS HAD PRODUCED A HUGE BATCH OF ITS NEW ANTI-CANCER DRUG IN ANTICIPATION OF FDA APPROVAL. BUT THE FDA TESTS SHOWED THE DRUG TO BE FATALLY TOXIC IN MANY CASES...
"...AND APPROVAL WAS DENIED.
"TAMCO TRIED TO SNEAK THE BATCH OF TAINTED DRUGS OUT TO COUNTRIES WITH LESS STRICT REGULATIONS OR WITH OFFICIALS WILLING TO TURN A BLIND EYE FOR A GREASED PALM.
"THOUSANDS OF DESPERATE PATIENTS WOULD DIE EARLIER THAN NEED BE... FRANTICALLY GRABBING AT ANY HOPE FOR A CURE.
"BUT I COULDN'T LET IT HAPPEN. AND I CAN'T LET THE ARCHITECTS OF OF THE SCHEME...


"...GO UNANSWERED."
TKBRAK
THE NEXT MORNING. TAMCO'S HEADQUARTERS.
...HAVE TO CONTROL THE BURST...
...JUST STUN THE GUARDS. ODDS ARE THEY KNEW NOTHING OF THE DRUG SCAM.
THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE IS ON THE TOP FLOOR.
HERE WE...
...GO?
MAGH!
WAM
SURPRISED TO SEE ME?
NOT REALLY.
THERAK

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

It's been happening more and more frequently at comicbook conventions. People in all parts of the country have been asking us the same question, a question that I'll now try to answer, although I must admit it's a tough one.

Though everyone couches it in different words, the query is, "Now that Marvel's been around for more than a quarter of a century, what is it really about? What's the Bullpen's philosophy? Is it just a big, money-making operation or is there more to it than that — and if so, what?"

Well, first of all, we've no objection to making money. If we don't make money, then we can't stay in business and that doesn't do anyone any good. But hey, there are lots of ways for top-flight artists and writers to make money. Most of Marvel's supremely talented crew are with us because they love comics, because they grew up with 'em, and they'd rather create comics than anything else.

It even goes beyond money. At the heart of the matter, Marvel is mainly about entertainment, pure and simple! And our way of providing our own particular brand of entertainment is by concentrating on action, excitement, suspense and surprises, all brought to you by powerhouse teams of writers and artists working side-by-side with dedicated editors.

But there's one thing more. Beyond all the thrills and spills, there has always been one basic precept, one irrevocable theme, and that is: We've got to respect each other, regardless of race, creed or color. The only true bad guys are those who would harm other human beings, those who would take advantage of the weak and the innocent — and no racial or religious type has a monopoly on that sort of evil.

So, maybe *that's* what Marvel's all about — using fantasy-filled fables to make us realize that, despite our differences, we're all crew members on Spaceship Earth, and reminding us we've got to journey peacefully together — or we'll end up wrecking the ship!

Excelsior!

Stan

Stan Lee

Time once again for us to dip into our ultra-full mailbag and see what John and Jane Marvel Comics Fan have to say ...

Dear BBP,

Does Wolverine pay taxes?

Dave Dooley
Bridgeport, IL

That's a good question, Dave. Wolverine does not pay taxes because he does not have a paying job. In fact, Wolvie has not had a job since he left the Canadian Secret Service many moons ago. But if Wolvie did have a job, he would have to pay taxes, just like any other U.S. resident.

Dear BPP,

I heard a rumor about the Fantastic Four movie which I was hoping you could confirm. I heard the movie was delayed because the special effects were being done on some guy's home computer, and the guy's mom spilled a cup of coffee on the computer, and now they're waiting to get the computer fixed.

Is this true?

Steven Spellman
Malibu, CA

Steve, that rumor is ridiculous! The FF movie was delayed till January because of special effects reasons, but the FX are far more complex than you think. The FF movie has a two million budget, and you can bet every dollar of it will be up there on the screen!

Dear Pigpen,

If all the late night talk show hosts had a fight, who do you think would win?

Kerwin McLachlan
Scotch Plains, NJ

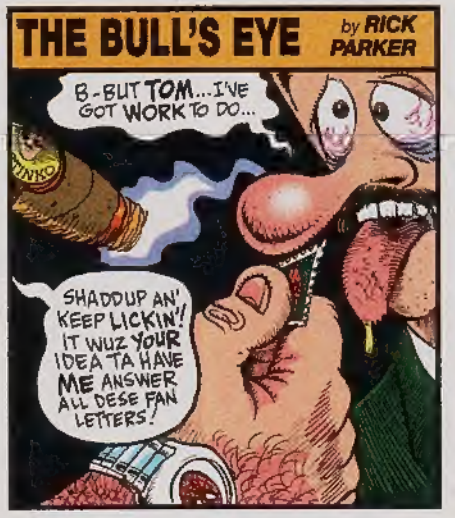
Sorry, Kerwin, we're not predicting any more fights! But we hear that Conan O'Brien guy fights like a barbarian!

Dear Ballpeeners,

Any chance you'll change the company's name back to Marvel Pop-Art Productions like it was in the 1960s?

Kevin Lippman
Pittsburg, PA

Sorry, Kevin, but we decided that name was outdated. It only lasted for a few months in the sixties. We are, however, considering a few more contemporary names. Let's see how these grab you: Marvel Grunge Productions, Marvel Techno-Raves, and Marvel Fresh Hip Hop Jams!


THE BULL'S EYE
by RICK PARKER
B-BUT TOM... I'VE GOT WORK TO DO...
SHADDUP AN' KEEP LICKIN'! IT WUZ YOUR IDEA TA HAVE ME ANSWER ALL DESE FAN LETTERS!

Dear Bullfrogs,

You should do a comic where the Hulk gets killed, and four other Hulks take his place! Also, one where Spider-Man gets his back broken, and a new Spider-Man with an attitude takes over. You can have these ideas for free!

Jonny DiSee
Manhattan, NY

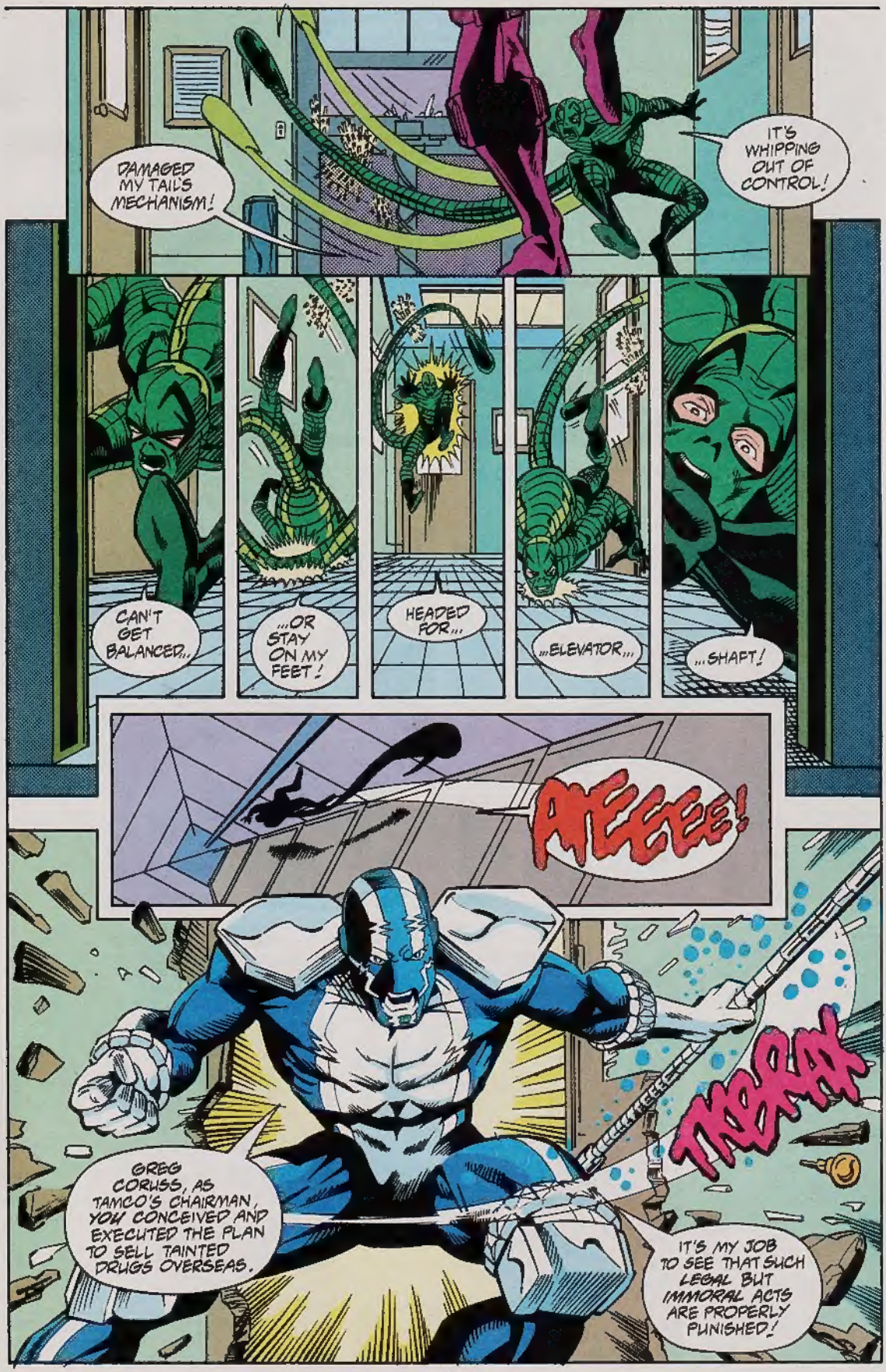
Seems to us we've heard those ideas somewhere before, Jonny! We won't be doing those stories, but we have an idea for a TV show called *Petey & MJ: The New Adventures of Spider-Man* — it would be a romantic comedy — kind of like that show *Moonlighting* with Bruce Willis and Cybil Shepherd! Let us know what you think.

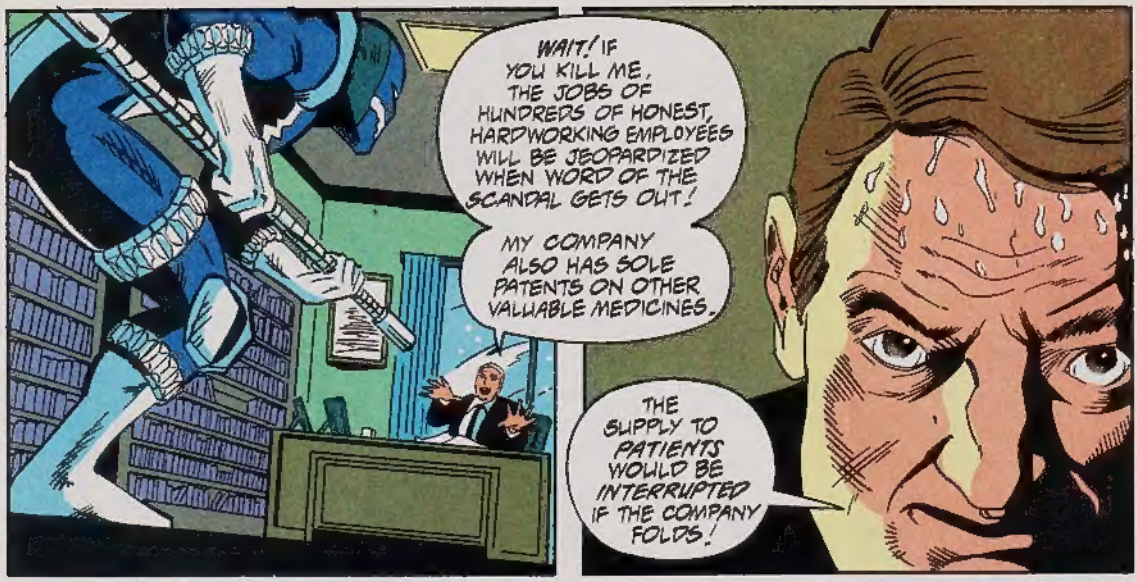
Well, that's all the room we have for the mail this time, but keep the paper trails flowing in our direction, Marveloids! Write "Bullpen Bulletins," c/o Marvel!

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **2099 UNLIMITED #3: Hulk 2099** is on an unlimited rampage!
- ☐ **AVENGERS WEST COAST #102:** Final issue! The end of an era!
- ☐ **BIKER MICE FROM MARS #3:** Meet the **X-Terminator** — he'll be back!
- ☐ **CABLE #7: Stryfe** is yanking Cable's strings!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #423:** World War 2 action with the **Sub-Mariner!**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #319:** Second printing!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #324:** "Fall From Grace" builds to a climax!
- ☐ **DARKHAWK #35:** Victimized by Vectors!
- ☐ **GROO THE WANDERER #108:** Would you vote for Groo?
- ☐ **HAWKEYE #1 OF 4:** On-target excitement!
- ☐ **MARVEL MASTERWORKS #26: THE MIGHTY THOR:** Hardcover reprint!
- ☐ **MONSTER MENACE #2 OF 4:** Where monsters dwell! ...
- ☐ **NAMOR #46:** Vs. the **Savage Triton!**
- ☐ **NIGHTSTALKERS #15:** Secrets of the Blood are spilled!
- ☐ **NOMAD #21: Man-Thing** -- shambles in!
- ☐ **ORIGINAL GHOST RIDER #19:** With the Thing and the 3 Wise Men!
- ☐ **PINHEAD #2:** Now tearing your soul apart every month!
- ☐ **PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #61:** The **Suicide Run** begins!
- ☐ **REN & STIMPY #14:** Disco is *not* dead!
- ☐ **SACHS & VIOLENS #3 OF 4:** The man in the dinosaur suit!
- ☐ **SAINT SINNER #4:** A creature threatens New York!
- ☐ **SCARLET WITCH #1 OF 4:** The return of **Master Pandemonium!**
- ☐ **SHE-HULK #58:** Courtroom chaos!
- ☐ **SPIDER-MAN 2099 #15:** Violence in Valhalla!
- ☐ **SPIDER-MAN CLASSICS #10:** Electro's first shock!
- ☐ **STARBLAST #1:** To steal the Starbrand!
- ☐ **THUNDERSTRIKE #4: Pandora** opens her box!
- ☐ **UNCANNY X-MEN #308:** Holy Matrimony! Jean proposes to Scott!
- ☐ **WARLOCK CHRONICLES #7:** Battle with **Beta Ray Bill!**
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #108:** Showdown with **Sandstorm!**

HAVE BLACK BOLT, WARLOCK, CAPTAIN MARVEL, QUASAR, BINARY, HYPERION, DARKSTAR, VANGUARD AND IKARIS BEEN LURED TO THE MOON? WHO ARE THE STARBLASTERS AND WHY DO THEY WANT THE *STARBRAND*? WHAT POWER IS PUSHING THE MOON OUT OF ORBIT? HOW DO YOU GET A WATCHER TO STOP WATCHING YOU? WHY IS THE *STARBRAND* LIKE NO OTHER POWER IN THE UNIVERSE? THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED IN STARBLAST #1 ON SALE NOW!

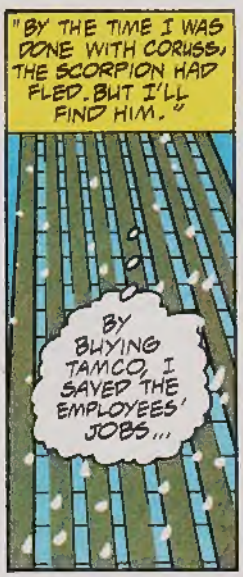

DAMAGED MY TAIL'S MECHANISM!
IT'S WHIPPING OUT OF CONTROL!
CAN'T GET BALANCED...
...OR STAY ON MY FEET!
HEADED FOR...
...ELEVATOR...
...SHAFT!
AEEEE!
THRAK
GREG CORUSS, AS TAMCO'S CHAIRMAN, YOU CONCEIVED AND EXECUTED THE PLAN TO SELL TAINTED DRUGS OVERSEAS.
IT'S MY JOB TO SEE THAT SUCH LEGAL BUT IMMORAL ACTS ARE PROPERLY PUNISHED!


WAIT! IF YOU KILL ME, THE JOBS OF HUNDREDS OF HONEST, HARDWORKING EMPLOYEES WILL BE JEOPARDIZED WHEN WORD OF THE SCANDAL GETS OUT!
MY COMPANY ALSO HAS SOLE PATENTS ON OTHER VALUABLE MEDICINES.
THE SUPPLY TO PATIENTS WOULD BE INTERRUPTED IF THE COMPANY FOLDS!

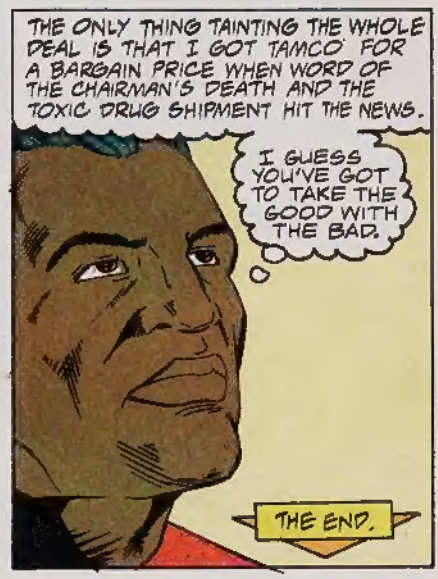
HMMM.
YOU KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING IS TRUE!

YES. BUT SUCH A MAJOR ACT OF MALICIOUS IMMORALITY MUST BE PUNISHED!

TKBRAX


"BY THE TIME I WAS DONE WITH CORUSS, THE SCORPION HAD FLED. BUT I'LL FIND HIM."
BY BUYING TAMCO, I SAVED THE EMPLOYEES' JOBS...

...AND KEPT THE FLOW OF BENEFICIAL DRUGS GOING.
DAILY BUGLE


THE ONLY THING TAINTING THE WHOLE DEAL IS THAT I GOT TAMCO FOR A BARGAIN PRICE WHEN WORD OF THE CHAIRMAN'S DEATH AND THE TOXIC DRUG SHIPMENT HIT THE NEWS.
I GUESS YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE THE GOOD WITH THE BAD.
THE END.

WEB-ZINGERS

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

ERIC FEIN
EDITOR
DANNY FINGEROTH
GROUP EDITOR

Attention correspondents: All letters considered for publication must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request.

HEY, SPIDER-MANIACS!!

With all the excitement in the industry and at Marvel these past months, my head's been spinning. So many titles, so many stories, so many characters. And through it all, you folks have been loyal to the Spider-line, for which we all are eternally grateful.

But hey–who are "we" anyway? Well, the writers and artists I think you know. Their work speaks for itself (which never stopped us from hyping it anyway). But the editorial "we" – well, that's a little trickier. So, even though we're supposed to be the invisible gremlins that make everyone else's work magically get to you, I'm going to open the curtain for a minute.

Y'see, here at Marvel, there's always been an Editor in Chief. As we grew, the Chief had "line editors" who oversaw the specific goings-on of specific titles. So that while one person could never humanly edit all our many titles, the Chief picked people he trusted to put them out, who would consult him only about general directions and major status quo changes. And that was fine for quite a while.

But as your demand for more of our books has grown, even the line editors were stretched to the limit to handle their books without going crazy. In response, Editor in Chief Tom DeFalco came up with the "Group Editor" system about a year and a half ago. Now, there would be the Spider-Man Group, the X-Men Group, the Midnight Sons Group, and the Avengers Group, with others to come later. The idea behind this was that there would be a G.E. who would oversee the direction of a family of books, editing some books on his or her own, with others of the titles being handled either by an Editor and/or an Associate Editor. (What about the Executive Editors whose credits you often see? They help Tom with his chiefly duties, but they don't edit monthly comics.)

In my case, I became the head of the Spider-Group, still hands-on editing AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, SPIDER-MAN and a few others, while delegating the editing of SPECTACULAR, WEB, and so on to someone else. For a while, Rob Tokar was line editor of a bunch of my family's books. Then, my former assistant, Eric Fein, was promoted to Associate Editor and he took some over, while Rob--after helping us through Spider-triumphs such as WEB #100, SPEC #200, and *Maximum Carnage*--eventually branched off, leaving his Spider-titles behind but taking with him the NEW WARRIORS and NIGHT THRASHER (which had both been in my group when the G.E. system started) and some books he'd been editing all along, and left the group. Coming in to take up the slack was former EXCALIBUR assistant editor Mark Powers, who was promoted to Associate Editor. (And coming in to take up my slacks was my tailor, but that's another story.) And that's where things stand today. Yup, there'll be no further editorial changes for the foreseeable future. Yes, everything's status quo... Huh? Excuse me, Tom DeFalco wants to talk to me for a moment...WHAT?! Well, gang, it seems like the editorial merry-go-round just kicked into high gear. Mike Lackey, my trusty assistant editor, has just been promoted to Associate Editor, outside the group. He'll be taking over G.I. JOE and several Epic series. Good luck, Mike! Taking his place is former Editorial Assistant Mark Bernardo, a Spidey fan from way back. Welcome aboard, Mark!

Now, we editorial types see our names in print enough, so that's not why I'm listing us now. It's just that, with all the Spidey and Spidey-related comics we're putting out and preparing to put out, as well as the animation, video game, movie and miscellaneous Spider-Projects we're involved in, which also take a lot of time and attention, we sometimes aren't able to put as much of the personal touch in the letter columns as we'd like. For instance, telling you the above, while long-winded and convoluted, is my way of trying to explain to you all the various names you've seen coming and going in the Spider-mags for the past year or so. We couldn't do any of this without you, so we think you have the right to know and be included in the excitement as Marvel continues on the move!

What you should also know is that with all these extra hands working on the books, there's more care and attention given to them editorially than there would have been without the current system in place. And we all do read and comment on each other's work–as if you could stop us –so that there should be the consistency of character and exciting development of main and subplots that you've come to expect from Marvel in general and Spidey's books in particular. If we're not performing up to the standards you hold us to—let us know. (As if we could stop *you*.) If we are doing okay —let us know that, too. You know how insecure we are.

So that's the story around here. Eric, Mark, Mark and I will all do our best to keep you posted on behind-the-scenes and upcoming events in the life of Spidey and his creators. We'll always do all we can to keep warranting your continued support.

Thanks for listening. Take care.

DANNY FINGEROTH

Danny Fingeroth
Group Editor

FEIN-TUNING

Thanks for the information, Boss. I'm sure that our fans are just dizzy with excitement over Marvel's new Group Editor system.

Now for some fun stuff. As of WEB #106, Stephen Baskerville has joined us as inker. We think he's doing a wonderful job. What do you think? (Hey, write a letter and let us know!) The coming months promise more surprises, adventures and suspense than all three "Lethal Weapon" movies put together!

First up is a two-part Lizard story in WEB #110 and 111 called "The Savaging" that will change the life of the Lizard forever! Plus, these issues will introduce a super-cool, ultra-nasty bounty hunter named WARRANT! Also, starting with WEB #110, we'll be back to 22-page stories. Hooray!

And, looming on the horizon is a storyline so dramatic and so devastating, it will shake up Spidey's life for the foreseeable future, affecting all of the SPIDER-MAN books. In the words of Danny Fingeroth, "We're not going to kill Spider-Man... but he's going to wish we did!" Ominous, ain't we?

Well, enough of this talking stuff. We'll let you in on all the other new Spidey projects as they develop. The coming months promise to be the most exciting time in Spider-Man's life. Don't miss it!

Enjoy,

ERIC FEIN

Eric Fein
Editor

NEXT ISSUE: A special lead feature by *Joey Cavalieri, Rurik Tyler,* and *Sam DeLaRosa*. It's called "A Shock to the System" and it guest-stars *Night Thrasher* and the villainy of *The Shocker!* Plus, a prologue to *Lizard: The Savaging* by our regular creative team of *Kavanagh, Saviuk,* and *Baskerville*. Curt Connors thought his days of being the Lizard were over. But thanks to the evil of *Calypso*, he's wrong. And wait till you see what the Lizard does to her. You won't believe it. It's a pulse-pounding adventure you must not miss!